

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 IO-14 DODE-00
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
/097 W

-----040860 080946Z /21

R 080800Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5473
INFO AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TRIPOLI 0687

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PINR, LY
SUBJECT: TRIPOLI WATCH: COMINGS AND GOINGS APRIL 21 - MAY 1

I. ARRIVALS --

1. SUDAN. FIRST DEPUTY VICE PRESIDENT OF SUDAN ABD AL-QASIM MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM UNDERTOOK A SHORT VISIT TO TRIPOLI APRIL 23-25 IN ORDER TO MEET WITH QADHAFI AND OTHER LIBYAN LEADERS TO DISCUSS THE FIGHTING IN CHAD AND TO DISPATCH UNITS OF THE JOINT MILITARY COMMITTEE AS AGREED AT SEBHA AND BENGHAZI IN MARCH 1978.

2. TUNISIA. A DELEGATION HEADED BY MINTRANSPORT ABD AL-HAMID BEN SASSI VISITED LIBYA APRIL 25. THE TWO SIDES SIGNED THE MINUTES OF AN ACCORD CONCERNING BILATERAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIELDS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ROADS, AND RAILWAYS (TRIPOLI 0674). ALSO ARRIVING IN TRIPOLI APRIL 29 WAS DELEGATION OF TUNISIAN LAWYERS' UNION HEADED BY ITS CHAIRMAN FATHI ZUHAYR. LIBYAN LAWYERS GROUP HAD VISITED TUNISIA IN UNCLASSIFIED

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MARCH.

3. BANGLADESH. THE UNDERSEC OF THE BANGLADESH INFORMATION MINISTRY (UNIDENTIFIED) ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI APRIL 25. VISIT COINCIDED WITH REPORTED EXPULSION BY BURMA OF SEVERAL THOUSAND MOSLEMS TO BANGLADESH WHICH WAS HARSHLY CRITICIZED IN LOCAL MEDIA. NO DETAILS ON THE VISIT WERE ANNOUNCED.

4. PFLP. GEORGE HABBASH, COMING FROM ALGIERS, ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI APRIL 30. ALONG WITH QADHAFI AND JALUD, HE ADDRESSED THE MAYDAY RALLY HELD IN TRIPOLI.

5. MALAYSIA. DEPMIN OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY ABD AL-NUNAN BINUSMAN (PHONETIC) ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI APRIL 28 AT THE HEAD OF A SMALL TRADE DELEGATION.

6. TURKEY. MINSTATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HIKMET CETIN VISITED LIBYA APRIL 28-MAY 2. UNDER NEW TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED MAY 2, LIBYA WILL IMPORT FOODSTUFFS AND "STRATEGIC" MATERIALS FROM TURKEY. AGREEMENT ALSO CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A "MARINE ARSENAL" PROJECT AND A JOINT MARITIME TRANSPORT PROJECT. (TRIPOLI 0678).

7. GAMBIA. GAMBIAN MINHEALTH, LABOR & SOCIAL WELFARE MUHAMADU CHERNO JALLOW ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI APRIL 29. DETAILS OF HIS VISIT WERE NOT ANNOUNCED.

8. SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE. PRESIDENT MANUEL DA COSTA VISITED LIBYA APRIL 29-MAY 3. TWO ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS AND THE MINUTES TO A COOPERATION PROTOCOL WERE SIGNED MAY 2 (TRIPOLI 0685).

9. LEBANON/SYRIA. ABDULLAH SA'ADA, IDENTIFIED AS CHAIRMAN UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE SYRIAN SOCIO-NATIONAL PARTY, WAS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT TO MEETINGS OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WHICH WAS HELD IN TRIPOLI APRIL 25-29. SA'ADA MET WITH QADHAFI, JALUD, AND GEORGE HABBASH (PFLP) AND WAS OFFICIAL GUEST AT THE TRIPOLI MAYDAY CELEBRATIONS.

10. PDRY. ALI SAYF, HEAD OF SOUTH YEMEN'S GENERAL WORKERS UNION, WAS A GUEST AT THE MAYDAY CELEBRATIONS AND A PARTICIPANT IN THE APRIL 25-29 MEETINGS OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5474

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11. EAST GERMANY. THE JOINT GDR/LIBYAN ARAB COMMITTEE FOR AIR TRANSPORT MET APRIL 25-26 AND CONCLUDED A SUPPLEMENT TO THE EXISTING AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT. THE SUPPLEMENT STIPULATES THAT THE EAST GERMAN CARRIER "INTERFLUG" WILL BEGIN A WEEKLY FLIGHT FROM BERLIN TO ADDIS ABABA VIA TRIPOLI IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING WEEKLY TRIPOLI-BERLIN FLIGHT.

12. AUSTRALIA. SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PREMIER DONALD DAVID DUSTAN AND BILL HARTLEY, MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY'S FEDERAL CONFERENCE, VISITED LIBYA APRIL 22-25 AS PART OF A MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA AGRICULTURAL EXPORT PROMOTION TOUR. DELEGATION MET WITH LIBYAN LAND RECLAMATION AND AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS. A LIBYAN-AUSTRALIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WAS FORMED IN BENGHAZI AS A PART OF THE VISIT. IT WAS AGREED THE AUSTRALIANS WOULD UNDERTAKE THREE MORE DEMONSTRATION DRY-LAND FARMING PROJECTS IN LIBYA IN ADDITION TO THE THREE ON-GOING PROJECTS.

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II. DEPARTURES --

13. TUNISIA. ABU BAKR ALI AL-SHARIF, LIBYAN SECRETARY OF TRADE, VISITED TUNIS APRIL 21-26. AN AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED APRIL 25 WHICH CALLS FOR COOPERATION IN SEVERAL INDUSTRIES INCLUDING SPINNING AND WEAVING, FERTILIZERS, PETRO-CHEMICALS, AND READY-MADE CLOTHES.

14. GAMBIA. FOREIGN SECRETARY TURAYKI WENT TO BANJUL ON APRIL 27 FROM DAKAR, WHERE HE HAD ATTENDED THE ISLAMIC

FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
OPENING OF A LIBYAN ARAB CULTURAL CENTER. ACCORDING TO
LOCAL MEDIA, CENTER WAS OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED BY
GAMBIAN PRESIDENT DAWDA JAWARA.

III. CONFERENCES --

15. THE FOLLOWING CONFERENCES WERE HELD IN LIBYA DURING
THE WEEK. DETAILS REPORTED SEPARATELY AS WARRANTED:

-- SECOND CONFERENCE OF ARAB BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS, APRIL 22-24 IN TRIPOLI.

-- NATIONAL ARAB FESTIVAL OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE
OF ARABISTAN (IN IRAN), APRIL 23-26 IN TRIPOLI.

-- PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS,
APRIL 25-29 IN TRIPOLI.

IV. NEW ORGANIZATIONS --

16. ACCORDING TO LOCAL MEDIA, TRIPOLI DESIGNATED AT THE
DAKAR ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE AS THE HEAD-
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QUARTERS FOR THE FEDERATION OF RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES.
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Message Attributes

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Secure: OPEN
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